

NOTICE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND  
NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION  
AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF CLAY

NOTICE OF PSD PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION, 112(g) CASE-BY-CASE MACT APPROVAL,  
DRAFT PERMIT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND HEARING

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) announces its intent to issue to Yellow Pine Energy Company, LLC Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and 112(g) Case-by-Case Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Determination Construction Permit No. 4911-061-0001-P-01-0. The facility will be located at Georgia Highway 39, Fort Gaines, Georgia. Yellow Pine Energy Company, LLC submitted an application to construct and operate a 110-megawatt (MW) biomass-fired power plant. The proposed project will include: a fluidized bed boiler with a heat input capacity of 1,529 million British Thermal Units per hour ( $10^6$  Btu/hr); a condensing steam turbine generator; an auxiliary boiler with a heat input capacity of  $25 \times 10^6$  Btu/hr; multi-cell mechanical draft wet cooling tower; a water treatment plant; a wastewater treatment plant and outfall; back-up emergency diesel generator and diesel firewater pump; ash/inert landfill; aqueous ammonia storage tank; limestone storage bins; a No. 2 fuel oil storage tank; diesel fuel oil storage tanks; and supporting plant equipment. The plant will have the capability of firing 95% metal-free tire-derived fuel (TDF) in small quantities on a trial basis in addition to biomass fuel. Low sulfur No. 2 fuel oil or propane will be used for start-up of the fluidized bed boiler and will be the primary fuel of the auxiliary boiler.

The draft permit, PSD Preliminary Determination, Notice of MACT Approval, and all information used to develop the draft permit are available for review. This includes the application and all other relevant materials available to the permitting authority. This information is available for review at the office of the Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Atlanta Tradeport - Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. A copy of these documents may also be available for review at the Clay County Clerk's Office located at 105 North Washington Street Fort Gaines, Georgia 39851 (Telephone: 229-768-3238). Electronic files of the application, draft permit, PSD Preliminary Determination, and Notice of MACT Approval will be available at our internet site <http://www.georgiaair.org/airpermit> by selecting "PSD/112(g)/NAA-NSR/PCP Permits" on the menu. (Please note that the Internet is generally accessible from most public libraries in Georgia and at the Air Protection Branch office listed above.)

If copies are desired, a copying machine for public use is provided by EPD at the Atlanta Air Protection Branch office. The first 25 copies are free of charge and every page thereafter costs \$0.10 per page. Copies will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Files are available for review and copying 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, excluding holidays.

You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft construction permit, Preliminary Determination, and Notice of MACT Approval concerning the proposed project. The Preliminary Determination is a summary of the technical review of the application and contains a list of the Company's application along with supporting documents, Notice of MACT Approval, and the draft Construction Permit. The draft permit serves as both a draft PSD permit and a draft 112(g) Case-by-Case permit. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Permit, Preliminary Determination, and Notice of MACT Approval are invited to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the Atlanta address above, postmarked no later than April 14, 2009. All comments postmarked on or prior to that date will be considered by the Division in making its final decision on the permit.

The Division has concluded that Yellow Pine Energy Company, LLC's application should be approved and that a permit should be granted. This conclusion is based upon evidence that the proposed project will comply with the Division's Rules and Regulations for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1; that the emissions from the source will not cause a violation of any applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) or Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) increment; and will comply with the Federal PSD regulations, 40 CFR 52.21, including the use of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for regulated pollutants.

Fluorides, lead (Pb), and sulfuric acid mist emissions from the proposed project do not exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. Carbon monoxide (CO), volatile organic compounds (VOC), particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from the proposed project exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation.

The PSD regulations allow specific maximum incremental increases in ambient concentrations of particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>2</sub>). The EPD has determined that the maximum predicted impacts of these pollutants due to the proposed project are 2.5 percent of the annual NO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 4.7 percent of the annual SO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 15 percent of the 24-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 4.2 percent of the 3-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 3.9 percent of the annual PM<sub>10</sub> PSD increment, and 13.1 percent of the 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub> PSD increment. Thus, EPD has concluded that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable incremental increases in ambient concentration of PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>). With regard to the Class I Areas (Bradwell Bay Wilderness and St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge), the EPD has determined that the maximum predicted impacts of these pollutants due to the proposed project are 0.15 percent of the annual SO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class 1 increment, 1.6 percent of the 24-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class 1 increment, and 6.6 percent of the 3-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class 1 increment. Thus, EPD has concluded that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable Class II and Class I incremental increase in ambient concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>).

The Division has concluded that the proposed project will comply with the Division's Rules and Regulations for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1; that the hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions from the source will not cause a violation of any of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), 40 CFR 63 Subpart B; and will comply with the Federal HAP regulations, 40 CFR 63, including the use of MACT for regulated pollutants. HAP emissions exceed the major source threshold levels established by 40 CFR 63. The Division has determined that these emissions will not cause an adverse impact on ambient air quality, and the air quality levels should pose no significant health risk around the plant.

You are also hereby notified that a public meeting and hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 7, 2009, located at the following address:

George T. Bagby State Park in the Clean City Hall Room  
330 Bagby Parkway, Georgia Highway 39 S.  
Fort Gaines, Georgia 39851

During the public meeting, representatives from EPD will be available to discuss Yellow Pine's application. Following the public meeting a hearing will be held to receive formal comments on Yellow Pine's application. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing.

Following the public comment period, as required by PSD, a proposed permit, incorporating any changes that result from comments received during the public comment period, will be made available to U.S. EPA and affected states. Information pertaining to U.S. EPA's review period can be found on their website at [www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits](http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits). **The deadline for written comments is April 14, 2009.**

After the comment period has expired, the EPD will consider all comments, make any necessary changes, and issue the Construction Permit and a Final Determination. Copies of the final Construction Permit, Final Determination, comments received, EPD's responses to comments, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review during normal business hours at the office of the Air Protection Branch, as well as at the Internet addresses given above.

For additional information, contact the Program Manager, Stationary Source Permitting Program, at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404/363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information.